Minister Shri Chandra Shekhar and delivered a message from His Highness Sheikh Saad Al-Abdallah Al-Salim Al Sabah, Prime Minister and Crown Prince of Kuwait. He also called on the former Minister of External Affairs Shri V. C. Shukla, Deputy Minister of External Affairs Shri Digvijay Singh and Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha Dr. Najma Heptullah. He discussed the curent Gulf Crisis and the traditional friendly bilateral relations between the two countries.

Indians returning from Gulf

383. SHRI PARABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleaed to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Indians returned to India recently due to ongoing Gulf War;

(b) whether it is also a fact that all of them are leaving behind their hearth and home in gulf countries;

(c) if so, the estimated amount of property they are leaving behind;

(d) wether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to compensate the above Indians and if so, the details thereof? and

(e) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some of them have been forced to leave behind their movable and immovable assests.

(c) In the present conditions, it is not possible to estimate the value of property left behind by returning Indians.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Petition submitted by Fiji Nationals of Indian origin

384. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that United Nations has sent the petition submitted to the Secretary General of the United Nations by the Fiji Nationals of Indian origin, to the Fiji Authorities;

(b) if so, the substance of the petiiton;

(c) whether summary of the petition has been submited to the Human Rights Cimmission and the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities also;

(d) if so, the results thereof; and

(e) what is the Government of India's role therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The petitioners have charged that the present Government in Fiji has obtained power through an unjustifiable, racially discriminatory, military takeover which was in violation of Fiji's own Constitution and international law. They have requested the U. N. for relief and sought immediate cession of control by Fiji's present Government to a popularly elected, democratically based Government which would represent the interests of all Fijians.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The results of the petition would be known only by July-August 1991, by when the Government of Fiji may sent its reply, if any, to the U. N. Human Rights Commission.

(e) The Government of India is committed to support the democratic aspirations of the people of Fiji.